

SNC Reference Number
(enter if previously assigned)

SNC#080014

PROJECT SUMMARY

County: Nevada

Applicant: Nevada County Land Trust

Project Title: Landowner Outreach and Education

PROJECT GOAL

Through this program Nevada County Land Trust (NCLT) will provide "on the ground" landowner education on land conservation in target Sierra Foothill areas of Western Nevada County for the protection and restoration of rivers, lakes and streams, and their watersheds. The overarching goal is to protect, conserve, and restore the area's natural resources and working landscapes, to reduce the risk of wildfires, and to protect and improve water quality. This program supports the use of appropriate land stewardship best practices and private land ownership using conservation easements.

PROJECT SCOPE

The program facilitates in-person, face-to-face outreach and education: 1) with landowners of parcels in strategically sensitive areas who have not protected their land with a conservation easement, and 2) land stewardship with those who have conservation easements held by NCLT.

Research was conducted through NCLT's five-year strategic plan to target parcels within sensitive watersheds along the Bear and Yuba Rivers and smaller tributaries. Parcels of >80 acres have been identified, as well as individual landowner names. Some lands are working landscapes and some are open space. All lands are privately held.

NCLT will conduct a series of workshops to review sensitive habitat zones and wildlife corridors, identified threats to the stability of these areas and the mechanisms to manage lands for long term sustainability.

NCLT will work with Nevada County Resource Conservation District to provide expertise in developing content and speaking in these sessions. Also content and expertise will be leveraged from Sierra Nevada Conservancy, specifically on rangeland conservation.

NCLT currently has the financial capacity to deliver one of these workshops. This grant request will allow NCLT to operate four such programs within the 12-month period after grant funding is approved, reaching a goal of 80 landowners.

A second part of the program covers landowner education for 21 properties (6,500 acres) currently held in conservation easements. As we conduct annual stewardship visits we have an opportunity to engage with landowners on best practices for watershed lands sustainability. The goal of this program is to leverage workshop materials created. NCLT currently has the financial capacity conduct stewardship visits on each of its properties held. This grant request will

allow NCLT to take advantage of each visit to provide more extensive feedback and recommendations to each landowner, during the 2009 calendar year.

Finally there is a public relations component that focuses on land conservation in sensitive watershed zones in Western Nevada County.

Requested grant funding of \$45k would be used to supplement salary for an Outreach Coordinator, the creation of materials, the workshops, the preparation of specialized assessments for lands, and other expenses related to the execution of the program. The participation of specialized expertise will be made available through NCLT Board of Directors and our relationship with Nevada County Resource Conservation District, among others.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Letter from Nevada County Resource Conservaton District

SNC PROJECT DELIVERABLES AND SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Using the parcel data already collected, identify 4 areas of geographic concentration for outreach.	Weeks 1-2
Develop materials and workshop content. This includes writing and printing white papers, articles, maps and presentations.	Weeks 3-12
Design workshop program including selecting experts to speak on specialized topics.	Weeks 4-10
Conduct workshops over a 6 month period; to be held in conjunction with guided site hikes to enhance learning.	Weeks 12-38
Follow-up with landowners; site visits to discuss a stewardship program that includes a conservation easement.	Weeks 38-52
Leverage content on conservation values during annual monitoring visits with 21 landowners who have an existing conservation easement with NCLT.	Weeks 10-52
Conduct public relations activities; speak at civic meetings, send out press releases, place op-eds and articles. Post all content on a special landowner location on www.nevadacountylandtrust.org.	Weeks 38-52

SNC PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
1/2 salary for Outreach Coordinator (1,040 hrs@\$17 per hr)	\$17,680
Materials: writing, design, photography, layout, printing	\$7,020
Consult experts for content development and/or delivery	\$5,000
Workshops: invitations, rentals, supplies and expenses	\$6,000
Website enhancement	\$2,000
Prep of specialized content for lands during stewardship visits	\$3,000
PR: articles, media relations and speaker placement	\$2,500
Management oversight (40 hs @ \$45 per hr)	\$1,800
	\$
	\$
SNC GRANT TOTAL	\$45,000